FAIRY TAIL: METAL AND THREADS

Chapter 8: The Future of the Guild

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Magnolia.

May, x771

After Makarov introduced Alfonzo and Elicia to the rest of the guild, he led them toward the group of four children sitting at one of the several long tables that ran the length of the guild hall's first floor.

As they approached the quartet, Alfonzo and Elicia gawked at the building's interior. What they saw was a large hall that resembled a medieval dining hall with several long table and benches, a bar off the left of the hall, a board that they assumed was the quest board each guild should have, and a mezzanine held up by wooden pillars, and a hard wood or parquet floor.

"Nab, come here." Makarov said, calling out to the black haired boy who was idling in front of the quest board.

In response to Makarov's call, the black-haired boy, Nab, looked at Makarov, then he looked at the board once more before jogging towards Makarov.

Nab arrived near Makarov, Alfonzo, and Elicia around the same time that the trio arrived near the quartet of children sitting at the table.

"Listen up, children." Makarov said. Then, he looked at the faces of the seven children. Once he was sure he had the attention of all seven of them, he spoke once again. "I've already introduced Alfonzo and Elicia. Now, I want the rest of you to introduce yourselves. You all are the future of the guild, so I want you to try and get along."

After Makarov's instructions, the five children looked at each other as if they were all waiting for someone else to take the lead. Eventually, after seeing that no one spoke, Makarov looked at the blond boy sitting at the table.

Laxus, why don't you go first." Makarov said.

"Hmph!" The blond boy, Laxus, snorted arrogantly. "I'm Laxus Dreyar. In the future, I'll be not only the strongest wizard in Fairy Tail, but I'll be the guild master, too." After Laxus' introduction, Alfonzo and Elicia exchanged glances, while thinking the same thing. 'Before Laxus' father, Ivan, implanted the Dragon Slayer Lacrima in Laxus, his personality was much meeker." Alfonzo and Elicia thought to themselves at the same time. 'So, that means that he's already got [Lightning Dragon Slayer Magic] and Ivan has already been expelled from the guild.' "It's nice to meet you." Elicia said energetically with a big smile on her face. "How ya doin'?" Alfonzo replied casually. "I'm Bickslow." The blueish-black-haired boy, Bickslow, said while staring at Elicia in a daze. 'It looks like Elicia has an admirer.' Alfonzo thought while watching Bickslow's face turn red slowly. 'Too bad for him, she's off limits.'

Alfonzo then subconsciously held Elicia's hand, causing her to glance at him with a smile. Then, Elicia snuggled up close to Alfonzo. Seeing these actions, Bickslow frowned slightly, but said nothing in response.

"I'm Evergreen." The brown-haired girl said with an expression and posture that was clearly seeking attention.

'She already thinks she's the most beautiful, huh?' Alfonzo thought as he glanced at Evergreen. 'As an adult, she's pretty cute, but her personality sucks. What a waste.'

'I can tell, Fonzie and Evergreen aren't gonna get along.' Elicia thought as she glanced between Alfonzo and Evergreen. 'When she gets outta pocket, Fonzie won't hesitate to tell her about herself. I hope it doesn't come to that, though, it's better for everyone to be friends'

"Fried Justine." The light green-haired boy said disinterestedly.

'In the manga and the anime, they made it seem like Fried was into Laxus... Like, really into Laxus.' Elicia thought to herself while looking at Fried curiously. 'I wonder if it's true.'

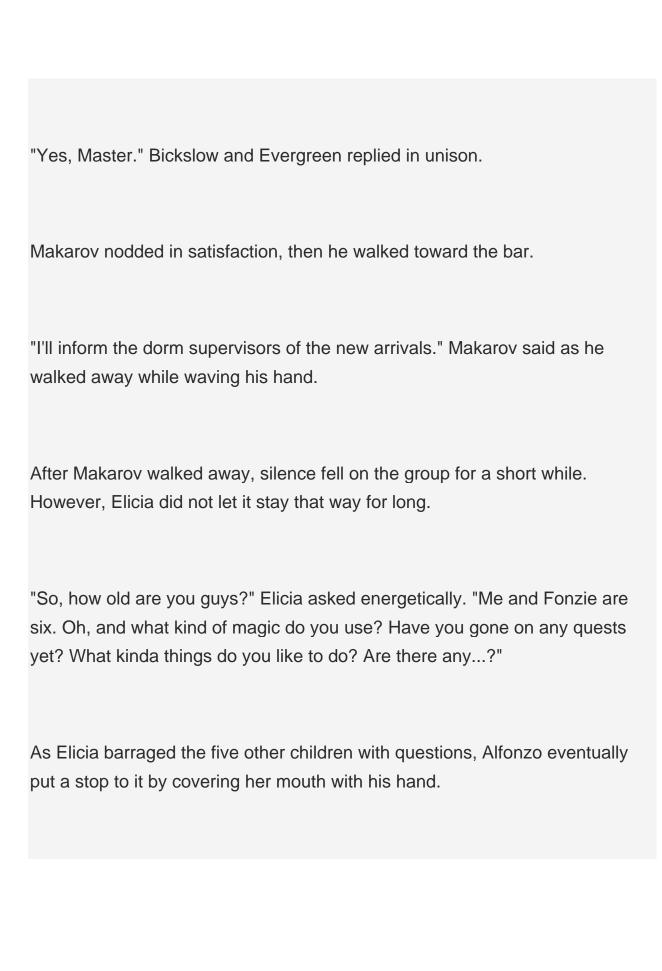
After the four children sitting at the table introduced themselves, everyone looked at Nab, who had yet to do so. Unfortunately, Nab was not currently paying attention. Instead, he was constantly stealing glances at the board he was standing in front of a few moments ago.

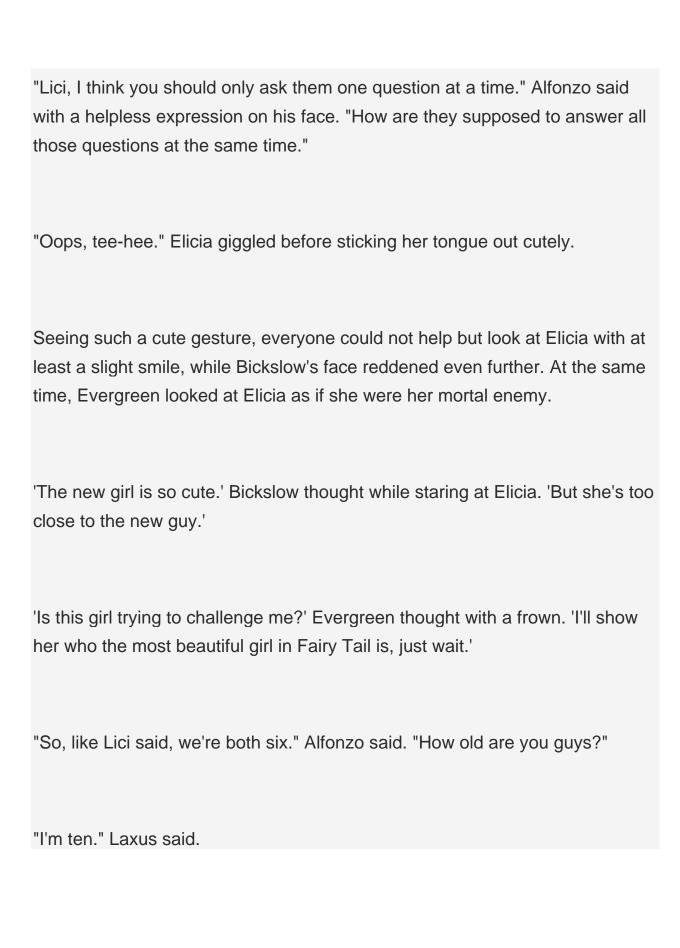
"Ahem!" Makarov cleared his throat. "Nab, it's your turn."

"Huh? Oh... Um... I'm Nab Lasaro." nab said, still stealing glances at the board.

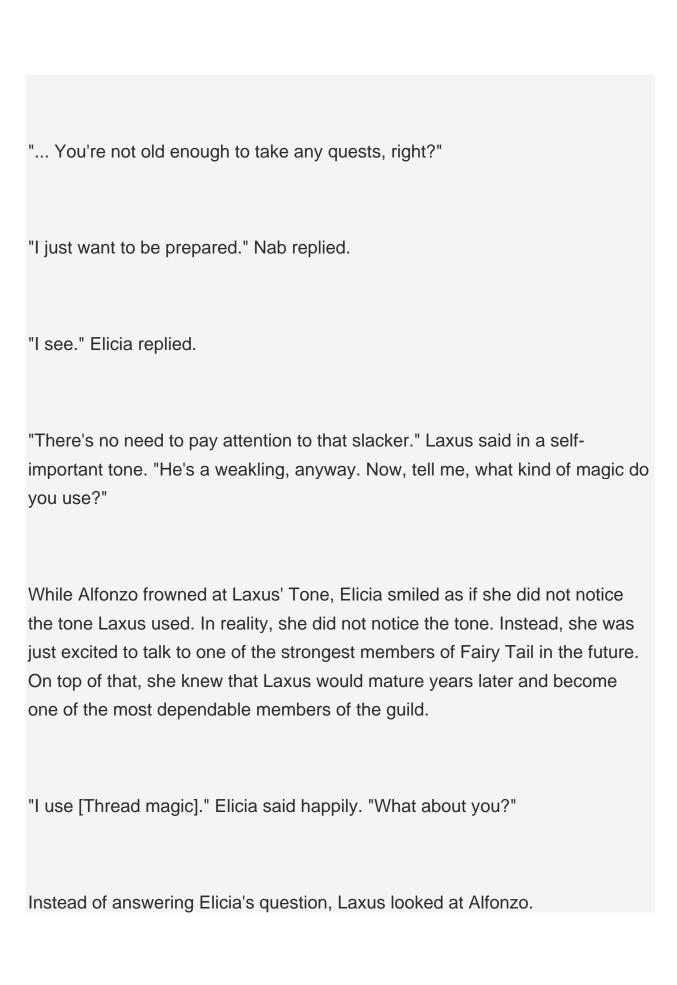
"I can't understand why you even spend so much time looking at the board." Evergreen said disdainfully. "You can't even take any quests yet. You should spend more time training, instead."

"Anyway, now that you've introduced yourselves, I'll leave you kids to get to know each other." Makarov said. Then, he looked at Bickslow and Evergreen in turn. "Bickslow, Evergreen, take Alfonzo and Elicia with you when you head back to the dorms, got it?"









"And what about you, Kid?" Laxus asked arrogantly. Alfonzo's frown deepened. Although he mellowed out after his accident in his past life, he was still a very proud person. So, instead of answering Laxus, he looked at the other three children sitting at the table and thought to ask the same question as Elicia. Before he could speak, however, Elicia noticed that Alfonzo was starting to get angry, so, she pulled on Alfonzo's sleeve and looked at him with upturned eyes. "*Sigh* Fine. I won't cause trouble." Alfonzo said in an exasperated tone. Then, he looked back at Laxus. "[Metal Magic]." Though he was not please at the delayed answer, Laxus nodded with satisfaction. "I use [Lightning Magic]." Laxus said.

'If it weren't for Lici, I'd smack that smug look off your face.' Alfonzo thought. 'A few lightning rods and some non-conductive metal like tungsten or titanium, and you would be no threat at all.'

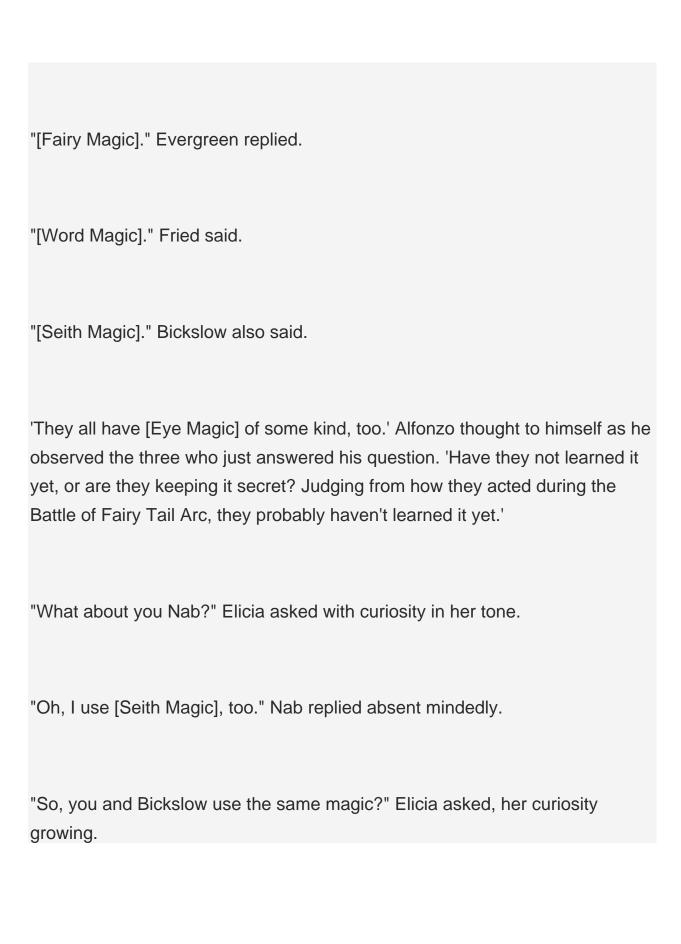
A moment later, Alfonzo shuddered.

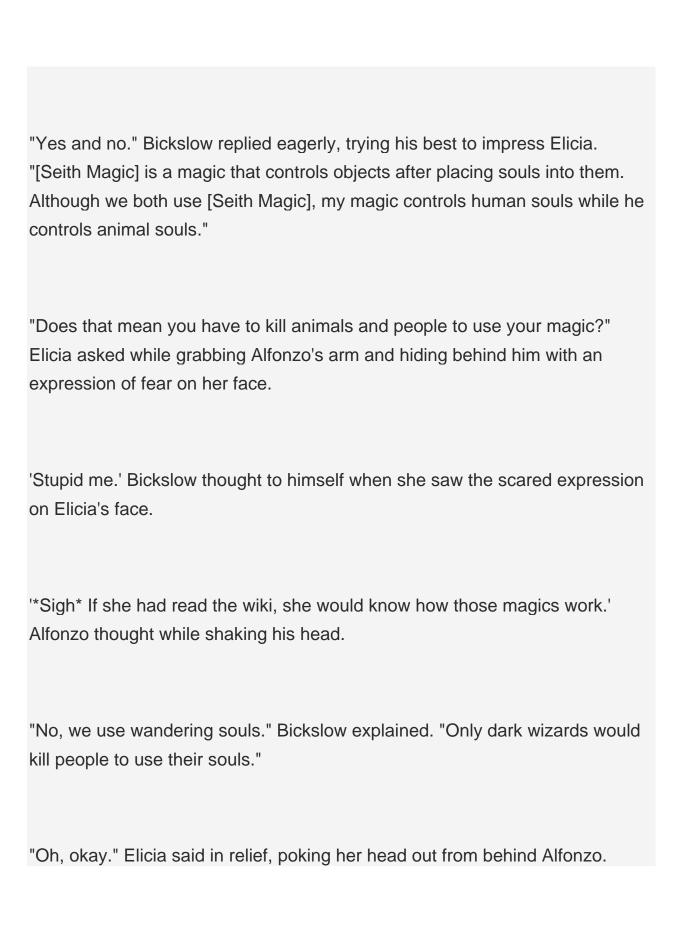
'What's wrong with me?' Alfonzo thought to himself without changing his expression. 'Why is this setting me off like that? Is it because of my young body? It has to be. My hormones and emotions are out of control. Damn it, I need to be careful.'

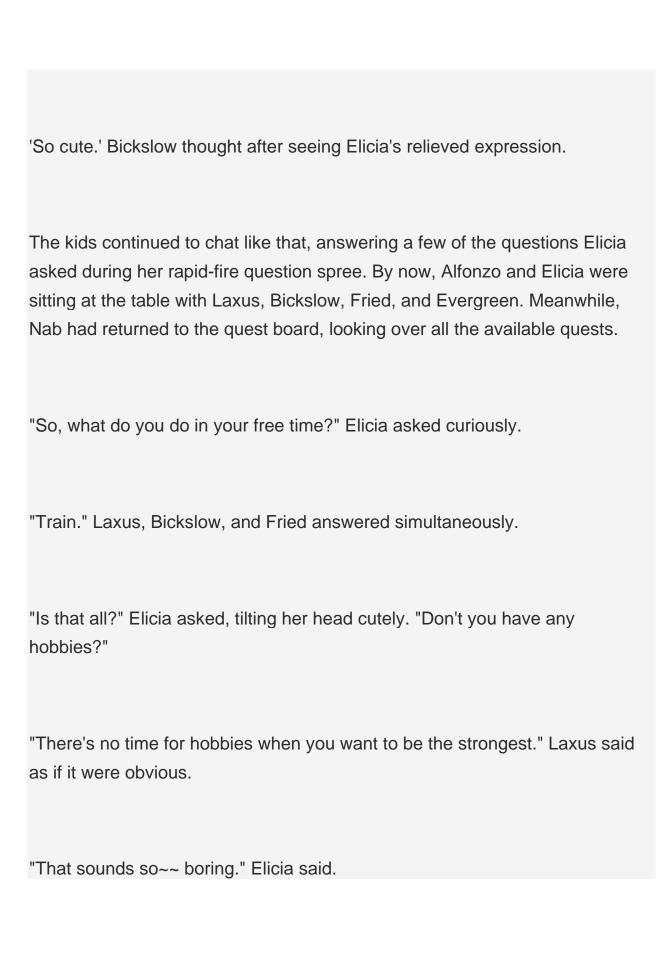
Like Alfonzo, Elicia was also worried about Alfonzo's mood. Although, she was more concerned that his old personality was starting to resurface. Hopefully, he would not lose his humility now that he had his eyesight again. After all, he had such high pride in himself even when his eyesight was almost gone.

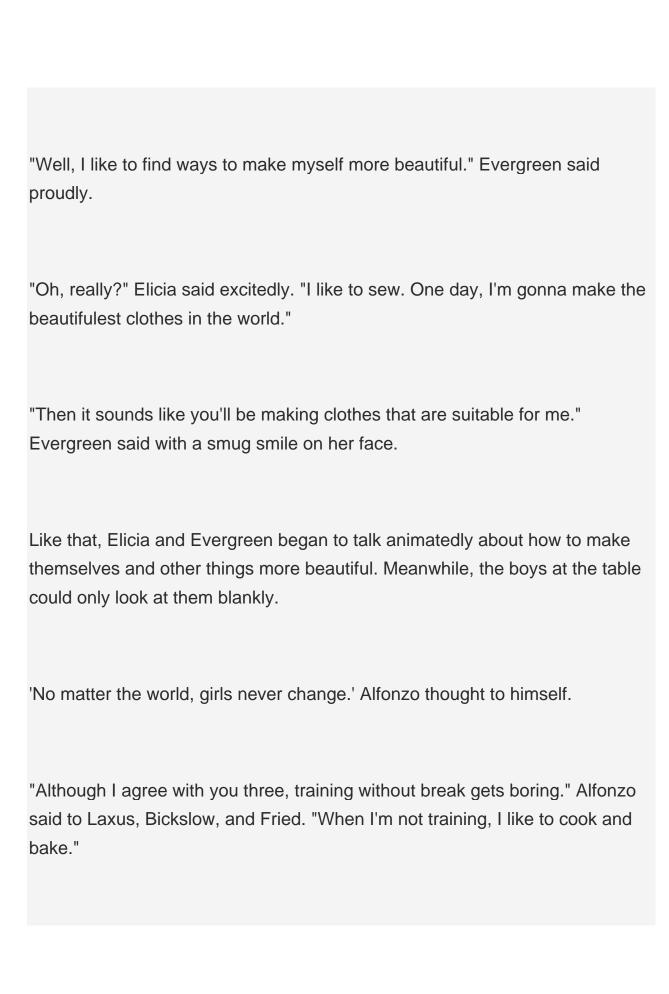
Alfonzo then shook his head slightly to keep his temper under control. Then, he shifted his attention to the other children.

"What about you guys?" Alfonzo asked.









"Hmph!" Laxus snorted. "You're gonna end up weak if you think like that."
"We'll see." Alfonzo replied in a dismissive tone.
Naturally, Laxus did not like that answer.
'There's no point in arguing with him about this.' Laxus thought to himself unhappily. 'Once I'm the guild master, I'll just kick him out of the guild. My Fairy Tail has no room for the weak.
Not long after that, Alfonzo and Elicia, being the youngest children present, began feeling sleepy. So, Bickslow and Evergreen took them to the male and female dorms, respectively, bringing an end to their first day in Magnolia and Fairy Tail.'